FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 FEBRUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Iran's War Information Headquarters called on Baghdad residents to evacuate the city 5 February because "heavy attacks" on the Iraqi capital are imminent, IRNA reported. Iran will retaliate for continuous Iraqi raids on Iranian residential areas, the statement said. The Iranian warning followed Iraqi air strikes on Qom, Tabriz, and Esfahan 4 February, announced by Iraq in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. IRNA said the raids on Tabriz and Esfahan caused casualties, though no one was hurt in Qom. More casualties were inflicted in a 5 February Iraqi raid on Shushtar, near Dezful, Tehran radio reported.

While IRNA no longer provides casualty figures for each air raid, the agency disclosed in a 4 February report that over 2,000 Iranian civilians were killed and over 6,000 wounded in raids during "the past few weeks." The casualties included 400 killed and over 1,000 wounded in the 31 January attack on Orumiyeh.

Iran

Seib Expulsion — U.S. journalist Gerald Seib will leave Iran 5 February and will be banned from returning, IRNA reported.

Execution Order — The Supreme Judicial Council confirmed the death sentences handed out to six "spies and terrorists" and ordered that the executions be carried out, Tehran radio disclosed.

Polish Visitor — In a meeting with the visiting Polish foreign minister, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi expressed hope that Eastern European countries will begin effective movement toward "a more correct understanding" of the world Islamic movement, according to Tehran radio.

Egypt

MENA transmitted the text of a decree by President Husni Mubarak calling on voters to participate in a 12 February referendum on the dissolution of the People's Assembly. Mubarak explained his decision in a statement cited by the agency, stating that he has proposed dissolving the assembly in order to apply the new electoral law, which provides for "broader participation" by combining party lists and individual candidates. MENA reported favorable comment on Mubarak's decision from leaders of the Liberal Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the Neo-wafd Party, and the NPUG, though the latter called for further changes in the election law.

Lebanon

Waite — A senior militia official in West Beirut said that Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite was kidnapped because he failed to honor guarantees concerning the fate of 17 Arabs detained in Kuwaiti prisons, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Camps War — Despite the latest cease-fire agreement, Beirut radio reported that intermittent clashes continued between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah areas.

Al-Jumayyil in Amman — President Amin al-Jumayyil began a 3-day visit to Jordan 4 February, Amman radio reported, noting that he discussed Lebanon and other issues in talks with King Husayn.

Israel

Rabin Interview — Speaking on Jerusalem television's "Moqed" program, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin expressed doubt about the effectiveness of any operation to free foreign hostages in Lebanon, adding that it is hard to believe the United States will carry out a punitive operation because this would endanger the hostages. On Israel's role in the U.S. deals with Iran and the Nicaraguan Contras, Rabin stated that the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee report is "inaccurate and incomplete" and it "reached the wrong conclusions." Rabin said he was asked to assist the Contras by a prominent member of the National Security Council, who was told in reply that Israel would not help either with weapons or with advice.

Vanunu — Commenting on Mordekhay Vanunu's appeal against being held in solitary confinement, the State Attorney's office said he is in confinement for reasons of state security and his personal safety, Jerusalem radio reported. Vanunu, who is on a hunger strike, recently tried to disclose secret information in a meeting with his relatives, the radio said.

Libya

Relations With PLO — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir 3 February, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported, adding that they discussed the attacks on Palestinian camps in Lebanon and reviewed ways to strengthen Palestinian unity. The radio said the meeting was "positive," noting that Al-Qadhdhafi expressed Libya's support for Palestinian struggle and unity. For Libya's part, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio mentioned the meeting took place but gave no further details.

Palestinian sources cited by the UAE paper *Al-Ittihad* said that Al-Qadhdhafi expressed a desire for Libya to host the next PNC meeting, WAKH noted.

Involvement in Chad — A communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio announced that Libyan aircraft bombed Fada 3 February, and a related commentary by the radio warned that the attack may be the prelude to "large-scale" Libyan operations. Col al-Qadhdhafi subsequently warned that the conflict in Chad is

likely to become "serious" and he urged France to "tiptoe out" of Chad to avoid the wrath of a "people's war," according to AFP.

PDRY

Defense Minister Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad affirmed that there are no Soviet military bases in the PDRY. Speaking in a magazine interview reported by Aden radio, he also claimed that the PDRY Armed Forces have overcome the "negative effects" of the "conspiracy" in January 1986 and have reached a "high degree of permanent readiness."

Pakistan-India

Pakistan and India have reached an understanding to defuse tension and withdraw troops to peacetime positions in the border areas, a Pakistani official announced in remarks reported by Karachi radio.

Both sides will exercise "extreme restraint" and will desist from "provocative" acts, he said.

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Najibullah Interviewed by Pakistani Journalist
LD041024 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Kabul, February 3, BAKHTAR: Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, has lately granted [an] interview to Ayaz Amir, Pakistani journalist.

Following is the text of the interview:

Question: The unilateral cease fire plus other efforts aimed at national reconciliation came after eight years of persistant conflict. What are the internal and external compulsions which have dictated these moves now?

Answer: We had invited the other side for national reconciliation eight years ago. This matter is demonstrated in the statements and speech made by the party and state authorities as well as in the materials of the press conferences that took place. Now we have proceeded from words to deeds and for such steps there exists powerful reasons.

The main reasons are the tiredness of people from war and the fratricidal character of this war, i.e. Afghan is killed by another Afghan due to the will of the U.S. imperialism and reaction of the region.

Because of this war not only our economy has suffered but the whole fabric of human life in our country has been endangered. There does not exist a single family in our country who does not have a martyr or a crippled member. Reconciliation is the alternative of war.

We have stated clearly that we are endeavoring for reconciliation and country-wide peace. We have put all of our efforts and have drafted a specific programme for this end. We are all proud of this programme. The foreign press has correctly pointed out that we have declared the programme for reconciliation when we are stronger than ever before.

We are powerful from the viewpoint of the consolidation of the party, from the point of security forces and also from the point of patriotic unity of the peopie.

Question: Are your peace proposals a matter only of changing tactics for [a] moment or do they signify the permanent acceptance of pluralism in Afghan political life?

Answer: Every noble person, in every point [words indistinct] and region vote for such a tactic and warmly supports it. I can say that the policy towards reconciliation is our strategy as well as tactic.

Question: After your announcement of a cease fire and related measures do you perceive any change in the attitude of the Pakistani Government?

Answer: I have already answered to this question both to you and during the press conference.

Question: To the extent that peace overtures to elements who have been till now your sworn enemies mark a radical break with previous PDPA policy, is there complete unity within party on this question?

Answer: With respect to all the issues related to national reconciliation there exists complete unity within the ranks and files of our party. The unity of the party should be considered a set of ideas. It cannot be said that there exists unanimity of opinion on one problem whereas with regard to the others it does not exist. The party has a single common position on the national reconciliation.

Question: How do you assess the chances of success of the next round of the Geneva talks on Afghanistan?

Answer: As a positive chance. For the next round precise and comprehensive preparedness is taken. In this regard the Afghan leadership has had detailed talks with Diego Cordovez.

Question: Some cynics might say that [the] DRA has suddenly (?rediscovered) Islam after eight years. Is it opportunism or a coming to terms with reality? At any rate, does not the elevation of Islam to the status of a state religion in the new constitution signify a departure from the secular thrust of the April Revolution?

Answer: During the recent months, I have many times answered such questions. The links of the PDPA have been consolidated with the masses and our people are Moslems. It is natural that the above mentioned issues are in the order of the day. While consolidating the relations between the party and the people, we fully support the favourite traditions and customs of our people and observe and respect the sacred religion of Islam, because Islam constitutes a part of our people's moral and spiritual beliefs. The popular character of our revolution is proved by the fact that tens of thousands of patriotic clergymen support by word and deed the aspirations of the April Revolution, and the revolutionary process, the aim of which is freedom, independence, and prosperity of the people.

[Question:] How do you see the American role in the Afghan conflict? Is a settlement of this conflict possible without American consent?

[Answer:] When I hear questions such as this one on the role of the U.S., two different meanings come to my mind. That is, on the one side, there is the great people of the United States which have a great history and on the other side, there is the Reagan administration which has come into power in that country. If the people of the U.S. become aware about the truth of the activities of [the] Pentagon, CIA, and other intelligence institutions of the U.S. in the vicinity of the DRA frontiers and inside its territory, they will adopt a different approach towards the administration of their country.

You know that we put on display the U.S. made Stinger type rockets in the press conference. But the ruling circles of the U.S. have forbidden the release of any information on the existence of Stingers at the hands of the enemy or the number of Stinger rockets captured by our security forces. This matter once again clearly testifies to the nature of the freedom of press in the U.S.

Question: In your opinion were any errors committed by successive party leadership after the April Revolution?

Answer: I think that such a formulation is very difficult. First, let us see what the previous leadership really is. The previous leadership is, at the same time, the present-day leadership and is ready to accept responsibility for all the past deeds. In this regard, we have responded to our party in the 18th and 19th plenums and critically assessed and analysed the previous events. I speak in this regard from the position of collective leadership. Otherwise, I would have not spoken.

Question: What is the response of the resistance forces to your peace moves and do you consider it encouraging?

Answer: We are expecting response to our proposals in deeds, not in words. At [the] present moment sentiments are dominant and the expressions of the other side is of a decorative and even irresponsible character. We believe that the other side has not uttered its basic word, that is the word of peace.

The extremist call for war voiced till now by the other side does not respond to the aspiration of the people and does not coincide to the majority opinion of the masses. Let us not make haste. We have transpassed [as received] a period of eight years and know it very well that we just cannot change the opinion of the opponents during six days. A long period is required for this matter.

Question: What if the resistance or the counter-revolution spurns your proposals or puts such conditions that are unable to fulfil?

Answer: A lot of such questions have been raised. Some have demonstrated their so to speak social impatience. They are in a hurry to know the future wants, but only credulous people can make such forecasts. The people are the creator of the policy of national reconciliation and only the people can by their innovatory [as received] and peaceful activity give a satisfactory response to the most difficult problems of the contemporary world. The people are wiser than any political figure and we should learn from the wisdom of the people.

Question: Some people in Pakistan see a hand behind the acts of sabotage which have become fairly common in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan. Could you comment?

Answer: With regard to the hand of Afghanistan I would like to express one point: It is the hand of friendship and of peace. Once again, we have extended this hand towards the people of Pakistan, Iran, and towards our compatriots who temporarily are living outside our country.

In this context, we have also elucidated our views in the declaration of the Revolutionary Council on National Reconciliation. The hands of Afghanistan are clean and its heart is open with respect to talks on peace.

Question: What were the factors behind the stepping down of Babrak Karmal from the party leadership?

Answer: I cannot add anything to what has been stated in the documents of the 18th and 20th [as received] plenums.

Question: Can the PDPA survive a Soviet withdrawal?

Answer: The PDPA will exist as long as the people of Afghanistan exist. Because its conscious [as received] is the heart of the people.

Question: If a peace settlement is concluded, what sort of Afghanistan do you envisage in the political, social, and economic fields?

Answer: We see the future Afghanistan too as a free, non-aligned, neutral, and a country with territorial integrity, a country which independently solves the issues concerning its socioeconomic development utilising its own raw materials.

Question: What will be the composition of a national unity government. Are you prepared to accept monarchists and people like Gulbuddin Hikmatyar in such a composition ?

Answer: We have a very positive stand in the area of coalition. It cannot be otherwise because from the very beginning we knew this when we chose the policy of reconciliation and compromise. A part of the coalition could be the formation of a government of national unity. We have unique experience in this regard because last year five new ministers, including those who were Cabinet members in the past regimes, I mean Sorabi, Jalalar, Pazhawk, and others, and non-party members, have joined our government.

You have put to me a number of questions concerning the withdrawal of limited Soviet military contingents from Afghanistan. I would like to ask you to study the documents of the Afghan-Soviet talks in Moscow and also read the contents of the recent press conference. These questions have been answered comprehensively. Our stand in this regard has not changed during the last three days!

AFP Reports Return of International Red Cross

BK041459 Hong Kong AFP in English 1421 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 4 (AFP) — The International Red Cross has been authorized to return to Afghanistan for the first time in more than four years, after reaching an agreement with the Afghan Government, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said here Wednesday.

Beginning this month, the ICRC will resume visits to prisoners in Afghan jails, provide medical assistance, and propagate humanitarian principles to government forces, the committee said.

The Red Cross conducted its last mission in Afghanistan in October 1982. It was only the second mission in that country since the Soviet intervention in December 1979. The organization has remained active in the conflict through its large delegation in Pakistan.

The international humanitarian organization and the Afghan Government resumed their contacts in April 1986, and after several exploratory missions, clinched an agreement in late January, a spokesman for the ICRC said.

Visits to prisoners will begin in Kabul's Puli-Sharkhi Prison this month and will be conducted according to Red Cross standards, in person-to-person talks, the spokesman said.

The Red Cross will open an orthopedic center, provide local medical training, and review the surgical needs of Afghan hospitals.

The agreement also allows the organization to propagate to the armed and security forces of the Afghan Government the humanitarian principles established in the Geneva Conventions. But, a diplomatic source here cautioned, "It remains to be seen in what conditions the Red Cross will be allowed to operate and for how long."

Experts in Pakistan believe the change in attitude of the Afghan Government towards the ICRC is part of the new policy of "national reconciliation," adopted by Kabul and Moscow, who declared a unilateral ceasefire on January 15 and offered the guerilla movement a role in coalition government. The guerrillas have dismissed the ceasefire as a "trap" and vowed to fight until Soviet troops quit the country and the Moscow-backed government in Kabul is ousted.

Canada's Foreign Minister Continues Visit

Meets Foreign, Planning Ministers

BK040153 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Canada has assured continued eocnomic assistance in the development efforts of Bangladesh. The assurance was given at a meeting between the visiting Canadian foreign minister, Mr Joe Clark, and the foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, in Dhaka yesterday. Both the foreign ministers expressed satisfaction over the excellent relations between the two countries. They discussed concrete measures to be taken to further develop these relations.

The visiting foreign minister of Canada, Mr Joe Clark, called on the planning minister, Retired Air Vice Marshal A.K. Khandaker in Dhaka yesterday. They discussed the possibility of expanding mutual cooperation in new areas, particularly in rural economic development. The Canadian foreign minister expressed his satisfaction over the recent trend of the decentralization process in development and administration in Bangladesh.

Calls on President Ershad 4 Feb

BK041558 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The visiting Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, Joe Clark, called on President Ershad at Banga Bhavan in Dhaka today. During the meeting, Mr Clark said Bangladesh is now in [a] much better position than it was. Referring to the family planning program of Bangladesh Government, Mr Clark said it has been making positive impact on the growth of [the] population in the country. Speaking at [a] news conference, Mr Clark said he is glad to see that Canadian assistance is being effectively utilized in the development activities of Bangladesh.

AFP: 'Tribal Insurgents' Blow Up Bridge

BK050605 Hong Kong AFP in English 0444 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 5 (AFP) — Tribal insurgents of the outlawed Shanti Bahini fighting for autonomy in hilly southeastern Bangladesh have blown up a bridge in the Khagrachari District, press reports said Thursday.

The *Ittefaq* newspaper said insurgents Tuesday blew up the 70-foot (21-meter) Baily Bridge located 11 miles (seven kilometers) from the headquarters of the Khagrachari District bordering India's Tripura State.

The Bengali-language newspaper, in its report from Chittagong, said traffic in the district was disrupted, but gave no further details of the incident.

President of Finland Ends Visit; Departs

BK050917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] The president of Finland, Mr Mauno Koivisto, left New Delhi for Helsinki this morning after a 4-day state visit. He was seen off at the airport by the president, Giani Zail Singh; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; and other dignitaries. Before emplaning, Mr Koivisto inspected an interservices guard of honor.

'Understanding' Reached With Pakistan on Border

BK041541 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] India and Pakistan have reached an understanding to de-escalate the situation on the border. The agreed minutes of the understanding was signed in New Delhi a short while ago by the leader of the Indian delegation, secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs Ministry, Mr Gonsalves, and the leader of the Pakistani side, its foreign secretary, Mr Abdus Sattar.

The understanding reached between the two countries is believed to contain measures about withdrawal of certain troops to peacetime locations.

After the signing ceremony, Mr Gonsalves and Abdus Sattar described the understanding reached between India and Pakistan as a step toward defusing tension. Mr Sattar expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, under whose guidance the understanding was reached today. The understanding follows official-level talks which began on Sunday [1 February].

Earlier in the morning, Mr Abdus Sattar called on the defense minister, Mr V.P. Singh.

Delhi Television Details Accord

BK041630 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Report on signing in New Delhi by Pakistan and India of agreement on border tension with recorded remarks by Pakistani Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar and Indian Ministry of External Affairs Secretary Gonsalves]

[Text] India and Pakistan have signed an agreement to de-escalate tension on the border. We bring you a report from Doordarshan's special correspondent Amitabh Chakroberty.

[Begin recording] [Chakroberty] The agony is over. India and Pakistan have reached an agreement, an understanding, to de-escalate tension on the border. The agreement was signed a short while ago right in the South Block [Indian External Affairs Ministry headquarters]. I have been able to get hold of the minutes of the consultations and let me read out the highlights:

Both sides agree not to attack each other.

Both sides agree to exercise the maximum restraint to avoid all provocative actions along the border.

In pursuance of the parameters that both sides agreed as a first step to the pull out of troops in the Ravi and Chenab corridor [in Punjab], it is agreed that defensive and offensive forces of both sides will pull out to peace-time locations within 15 days of the date of the initialling of these minutes [4 February]. Additional formations inducted in Ravi-Chenab corridor by both sides — includes Pakistan's Army reserves-north comprising 6 armored divisions and 17 infantry divisions on the Pakistan side; 6 mountain division on the Indian side — will also return to peace-time locations within 15 days of the date of initialing of these minutes. The minutes have been initialed a short while ago.

Well, the pull out of troops will be undertaken in a graduated manner.

[Abdus Sattar] we reached a stage, where, I believe, we have signed an important agreement that will lead to de-escalation of the unfortunate tension that obtained at present [words indistinct]. It will enable us to reembark on the road to the development of good-neighborly relations and cooperation between our people. Thank you very much.

[Gonsalves] Thank you very much. I would also like to pay tribute to the foreign secretary of Pakistan, for the manner in which he conducted the negotiations on behalf of his government without the benefit of direction on the spot, which we had. Perhaps I would suggest that the de-escalation of tensions began by the very act that we had decided to talk, rather than by the signature of this document, which is certainly a conservative view. With the exchange of understanding, we have set the path for a number of steps to defuse the tension, move toward de-escalation, and it is a process which we hope to carry forward. [end recording]

Rajasthan Exercises To Continue

BK050503 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] India and Pakistan have agreed not to attack each other as part of immediate measures to defuse tension and de-escalate the situation along the border. The two countries also agreed to pull out troops in the Ravi and Chenab corridor within 15 days. This will be the first step of a sector-by-sector approach toward concrete de-escalation. The modalities for the pull-out in other sectors will be discussed when an Indian delegation later visits Islamabad. These decisions form part of the minutes initialed by the Pakistani foreign secretary, Mr Abdus Sattar, and the secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Gonsalves, after 5 days of discussions between the secretary-level delegations in New Delhi yesterday. The minutes provide that in the Ravi-Chenab corridor all offensive and defensive forces of the two sides and additional formations inducted in the corridor will return to peacetime locations. All mines already laid will be lifted and all satellite airfields will be de-activated. The Navies of India and Pakistan will be brought to lower state of operational readiness. Regular contacts will be maintained between the two countries. They will excercise maximum restraint and avoid all provocative actions along the border.

Answering questions by newsmen later, Mr Gonsalves said the decision of the two countries not to attack each other relates specifically to the current situation and has nothing to do with the proposed no-war pact. The vice chief of the Army Staff, Lieutenant General K.K. Hazari, said that the excercise by Indian troops named operation "Brass Tacks" north of Rajasthan will proceed as planned. The apprehensions of the Pakistani side on the excercise were considerably allayed.

In Islamabad, the Pakistan Cabinet Defense Committee, which met last night, expressed satisfaction over the agreement with India to de-escalate tension along the border.

Ruling Akali Dal Responds to Priests' Directive
BK041608 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The ruling Akali Dal in Punjab has said in a resolution that any attempt to weaken Shiromani Akali Dal which has a distinct constitution and a democratic character will amount to striking at the very roots of the Sikh panth [religious system]. It said the party has always cherished unity amongst organizations having similar objectives. The resolution was adopted unanimously at the party's emergency meeting in Chandigarh this afternoon to consider the situation created by the directive of the five Sikh head priests for dissolution of the all Akali Dal factions. The resolution said the party is prepared to make any sacrifice for bringing back to its fold those factions and individuals who have broken away from the Shiromani Akali Dal. It ruled out any unity with those factions and individuals who do not believe in the basic principles, constitution, and political aims of the party as also in the unity and integrity of India and the democratic structure of the country.

Briefing newsmen, the general secretary of the party, Mr Harbhajan Singh Sandhu, said that the meeting also authorized the party president, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to constitute a subcommittee to hold talks with Jathedar Darshan Singh who issued the directive and other organizations in this connection.

Punjab Health Minister Resigns
BK050915 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] The Punjab minister for health and family welfare, Mr Sukhdev Singh Dhillon, has resigned. In a letter to the chief minister, Mr Barnala, submitted this morning, he said he resigned following differences with him over the nonacceptance of the directive issued by the five Sikh head priests and for the sake of the unity in the Akali Dal.

Meanwhile, one person was shot dead by two terrorists in Kapurthala District this morning. The victim was killed while he was coming to Sultanpur Lodhi from his village.

The center has issued a strong warning that secessionist and communal activities in Punjab will not be tolerated. In a statement in New Delhi, it said that a vigilant eye is being kept on the developments in the state during the last few days. Recent events tend to show that antinational and subversive elements are bent upon exploiting communal feelings to undermine parliamentary and the democratic government in Punjab. The statement says that healthy and normal functioning of the political parties is being impeded, posing a serious threat to political stability in the state. The statement says these developments have to be viewed in the wider political perspective of maintaining the unity and integrity of the country.

Tripura National Volunteers Declared Unlawful
BK041601 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The Tribal National Volunteers — TNV — of Tripura has been declared unlawful. A notification to this effect was issued by the center in New Delhi today. The declaration has been made under the unlawful activities prevention act.

Foreign Minister Previews Moscow Talks

BK031542 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad for Karachi this afternoon on his way to Moscow at the invitation of Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze. Talking to newsmen at the airport, the foreign minister expressed the hope that the talks will prove useful, paving the way for the final stage of a settlement of the Afghanistan issue. He said that during the talks, several important issues including the time frame for the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan will be discussed.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that the talks will help us understand each other's point of view, thereby facilitating the UN-sponsored indirect talks in Geneva on the Afghanistan issue. He said that his visit is a continuation of the process of dialogue between the two countries. There have been talks and contacts with the Soviet Union at higher levels. Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar has already made a visit to the USSR. The Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister [title as heard] Anatoliy Kovalev also made a trip to Pakistan and met President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo. The foreign minister said that Pakistan has good bilateral relations with the Soviet Union.

Delegation Returns From Border Talks With India

Noorani Addresses News Conference

BK050201 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0100 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Pakistan and India have agreed to take immediate steps to end the existing tension on the borders, to de-escalate tension, and to gain control of the tense situation. Minister of State for External Affairs Zain Noorani, said this at a joint news conference in Islamabad early this morning soon after the return of the Pakistani delegation from India. The Pakistani delegation, led by Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar, had been in India. He said the steps taken by Pakistan to defuse tension created by the concentration of Indian troops on its borders have begun defusing and reducing this tension.

According to the agreement reached between the two countries, there is an understanding between them and they have pledged not to attack each other. Additionally, the understanding reached between the two countries says that the tension will be defused gradually and troops will be withdrawn.

Mr Zain Noorani said the first step has been taken and we believe that similar results will be realized in other sectors where defusing tension is a must. He said the decision made in the detailed talks between the foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan in New Delhi, will be implemented by Pakistan with all sincerity. Under the understanding signed by the governments of the two countries, both sides will exercise extreme restraint and will desist from all provocative acts, including those on the borders. Both countries will pull back all offensive and defensive forces to peacetime positions within 15 days from the signing of the understanding. The additional forces and formations deployed by both sides in the Ravi-Chenab area will also be recalled to peacetime positions. [passage omitted]

The foreign secretaries of Pakistan and India signed the agreed minutes of understanding in New Delhi yesterday evening.

Abdus Sattar Addresses Conference

BK050321 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Minister of State for External Affairs Zain Noorani has said that with the agreement reached between Pakistan and India understanding has been created between the two sides and they have pledged not to attack each other. He was addressing a joint news conference in Islamabad early this morning on the return of the Pakistani delegation led by Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar from New Delhi. [passage omitted]

Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar told the news conference that an Indian delegation will visit Islamabad in about 2 weeks for further talks on ways to defuse tension along the border. The aim is to restore the situation to where it was before the escalation of tension. He said during his stay in New Delhi he met Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who referred to the understanding reached between him and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Bangalore. He also referred to the meeting of the home and foreign secretaries of the two countries to normalize bilateral relations. Mr Gandhi, besides discussing steps to improve Pakistan-India relations, also referred to future steps in this connection.

Indian Foreign Secretary Alfred Gonsalves said in New Delhi yesterday that his successful talks with Pakistani Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar will greatly help in reducing the tension which increased considerably on 23 January. The Pakistani foreign secretary also met with Indian Defense Minister Mr V.P. Singh. [passage omitted] Under the agreement, Pakistan will maintain an independent armored brigade and an independent infantry brigade of the (?holding control corps.) The troops' pullout will be made gradually. The directors general of military operations of the two countries will supervise this through direct contacts. All landmines installed earlier will be removed. Assistant chiefs of air staff operations of the air forces of the two countries will maintain contacts to remove apprehensions about the movements of aircraft. All satellite airfields will be immediately made ineffective and the naval forces of the two countries will be kept at a low level of (?readiness)

Northwest Frontier Province Cabinet Sworn In

BK050909 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] A new 10-member NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] cabinet headed by Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan was sworn in in Peshawar this morning. The oath was administered by the provincial governor, Mr Fida Mohammad Khan. The ministers and their portfolios are:

Local Government and Rural Development
Arbab Mohammad Ayyub Jan
Agriculture
Mian Jamal Shah Kakakhel
Finance
Nawabzada Mohsin Ali Khan
Industries and Labor
Mian Mohammad Iqbal
Law, Parliamentary Affairs, and Health
Sardar Mehtab Ahmad Khan Abbasi
Food
Nawabzada Mohabbat Ali Zafar
Education
Ifteqar Mohmand
Housing and Physical Planning
Habibullah Khan Kundi
Irrigation and Public Health Engineering
Rargdad Khan
Communication and Works
Amanullah Khan Jadund

The remaining portfolios will be retained by the chief minister. Later, Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan told newsmen that four more ministers one each from Peshawar, Bannu, Mansehra, and Malakand would be included in the cabinet at a later stage.

Poland's Orzechowski Arrives; Previews Talks

NC030702 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that at the invitation of our country's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Poland's Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski arrived in Tehran last night at the head of a political delegation. He was welcomed by our foreign minister.

In an interview with our correspondent on the purpose of his trip to Iran, the Polish foreign minister said: This visit is aimed at strengthening and expanding bilateral relations in various political, economic, and commercial fields. He added: Of course, if we find the opportunity to hold more talks during this visit, we will discuss and exchange views on various other issues, such as struggles against imperialism and Zionism, and world disarmament — topics which are of interest both to the Islamic Republic of Iran and to Poland.

Holds 1st Set of Talks With Velayati

LD040300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] The first round of talks between the ministers of the foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Poland continued in Tehran today. During the meeting Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Marian Orzechowski described Saddam's war crimes, the massacre of civilians, and the employment of chemical weapons as constituting the worst possible methods of warfare and added: We enjoy similar or identical views on the most important world political problems; the fight against Zionism and imperialism and resistance to imperialist interference may be considered as joint bases for bilateral relations and cooperation on an international level.

Poland's minister of foreign affairs referred to the prime aim behind his visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran as expanding relations in the political and economic fields and exchanging views on important world problems, taking into consideration the two countries' joint positions.

The Polish minister of foreign affairs also announced his country's desire to increase economic and political cooperation and to raise the level of exchange visits between the two countries.

During the meeting Mr Marian Orzechowski officially invited our country's Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Velayati to visit Poland.

Then, Mr Velayati, in a speech welcoming the expansion and deepening of bilateral relations, said: The existence of common ground and mutual understanding on a great many international political principles constitutes an appropriate framework for extending relations. The experience of the past few years has shown that this capability exists in both countries.

Our country's minister of foreign affairs, referring to Iran's foreign policy principles based on the wish and will of the entire people, then expressed the Islamic Republic of Iran's readiness to establish relations with all countries on the basis of equal rights and refusal to accept domination.

Mr Velayati, while accepting the invitation extended to him by the Polish minister of foreign affairs, expressed the hope that he would have an appropriate opportunity to visit Poland.

Meets With Musavi

LD042031 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] The Polish minister of foreign affairs, also met and conferred this afternoon with Prime Minister Musavi.

In this meeting which was also attended by Foreign Minister Velayati, Deputy Prime Minister Mo'tayeri, and the ambassadors of both countries, Musavi pointed to the effective factors influencing the expansion of relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Poland and said: The two countries' common interests are such that they can make excellent concerted efforts in the international arena against racist and imperialist policies, to the benefit of their own nations. The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the Polish Government's desire to expand bilateral relations.

The prime minister, describing the war crimes of the Iraqi regime during the length of the imposed war, stated: Peace and tranquillity are vital for the growth and development of a Muslim country which has undergone major changes, yet the warmongering Iraqi regime, which considered that after the victory of the Islamic Revolution peace and tranquility would strengthen Islam in the region, imposed an unwanted war on us and disrupted the tranquillity of our people. Iraq had the half-baked idea that it could realize its expansionist objectives in the south of Iran; but our people defeated the enemy's aggression and are now defending their cities powerfully and are determined to punish the aggressor and to establish real peace in the region — a peace that will not be disrupted by the provocations of imperialist powers and racist motivations.

The prime minister remarked: The criminal characteristics of Hitler are today manifested in Saddam, and in the same way that if the people of Europe had not defeated Hitler he would have fanned the flames of a third world war, so too our Muslim people cannot permit Saddam to set the region ablaze with his crimes and expansionist aims.

Musavi said: There are enlightening and revealing documents that can help those countries wishing to recognize an aggressor and warmonger, which will specify Saddam's motives at the start of the war.

In this meeting, the Polish foreign minister, while delivering a report on the progress of relations between the two countries also presented Musavi with the message from his country's prime minister, in which an invitation has been extended to Musavi to visit Poland. In conclusion, the Polish foreign minister presented Musavi with a Koran translated into Polish, which has just been published in Poland. The prime minister too, while expressing his thanks, said: The Koran is a book propagating peace among

nations and is a book propagating war with the oppressor. And this is the best reward for our Muslim people; and I hope that the countries of Eastern Europe will begin effective movements toward a more correct understa. ding of the world Islamic movement.

Received by Khamene'i
LD041902 Tehran IRNA in English 1826 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, Feb 4, IRNA — Visiting Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski met with President 'Ali Khamene'i here Wednesday, in a meeting in which he lauded the Islamic Revolution for effectively strengthening the anti-imperialistic front in Iran and the world. Orzechowski said that the Polish people recalling their bitter World War-II memories very well understand and sympathize with the Iranian people over the loss of their loved ones in Iraqi bombing of housing areas in Iran.

The Polish foreign minister also submitted President Khamene'i a copy of the Holy Koran. He said 100,000 copies had been recently printed in Poland.

In response, Khamene'i said that Iran has expanded her post-revolution relations with anti-imperialist countries on the basis of its principled foreign policy. "The Islamic Republic is under political, military, and economic attacks by the U.S. because she tilted the balance of power in the region", the president said. He cited the Iraqi aggression against Iran as one instance of U.S. plots against the Islamic Revolution.

President Khamene'i noted "the war imposed on Iran by Iraq is in fact an attack against the Islamic Revolution by the regional reaction with the help of Washington."

The successful experiences by Iranian forces in the Karbala'-5 and 6 operations have taught them how to end the imposed war triumphantly," Khamene'i said. [quotation marks as received]

The president said that Iran's Muslim forces have the initiative and are poised for final victories over the Iraqi troops at the war fronts and that the Iraqi war machine is weakening every day.

Khamene'i Addresses Afghan Group Leaders
LD042222 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, Feb 4, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Wednesday that the Islamic Republic is extremely concerned over the issue of Afghanistan and the plight of the Afghan Muslim people. He added that the Issue of Afghanistan is one which concerns the whole Muslim world. The president made the remark in a meeting with Afghan ulema and leaders of Islamic groups here on the occasion of the Ten-Day Dawn Wednesday.

The Afghan Muslim people have been able to continue their struggle for independence because of their spirit of steadfastness in confrontation with their enemies. All Afghan mujahidin whether Shi'ite or Sunni should further consolidate their solidarity, the president said. "Afghan people are now waging an armed struggle for the sake of Islam to make their country independent again and will reject any compromise with any powers," Khamene'i said.

The president stressed that the Afghan people do not need a sponsor or to be bullied, they needn't have fought the former and present regime in Kabul," [the] president asserted. The Afghan people's right to self-determination should be brought up in all international conferences, Khamene'i said.

In response, [the] leader of the Islamic revolution movement in Afghanistan Mowlavi Nasrollah Mansur said that what is now happening in Afghanistan indicates that the superpowers are both hostile with the Afghan Muslim nation and Islam in particular.

Latest Maghdushah Activity Outside Peace Plan
LD041610 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Beirut, Feb 4, IRNA — The Iranian Embassy here announced Wednesday that replacement of Palestinian forces with leftist militias in Maghdushah was outside of the framework of Iranian-sponsored peace plan for Lebanon.

In its statement the embassy refuted rumours of the replacement being another phase of the Iranian peace plan, noting "What is now going on in this Lebanese township was not included in the peace plan".

Meanwhile, people of Al-Ghaziyah village, east of Sidon, came to the Islamic Republic Embassy here Wednesday morning calling for continued stationing of Hezbollah forces in Maghdushah. The villagers appealed to the Iranian officials to the stationing [of] Hezbollah forces in Maghdushah and thereby avert furture violence there.

Execution of 6 'Spies, Terrorists' Ordered
LD041802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Today's meeting of the Supreme Judicial Council discussed the dossiers of six spies and terrorists who were condemned to death, and the order was issued for thei sentences to be carried out.

Also, the dossiers of three thugs convicted of murder were endorsed by the Supreme Court and orders were issued for their punishment.

Group Claims Credit for 9 Jan Blast in Baghdad
LD050847 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, Feb 5, IRNA — The Islamic Action Organisation in a statement issued Tuesday claimed responsibility for destroying a munitions and armament convoy in Baghdad Jan 9. The convoy was on its way to the war fronts in eastern Basra.

Explosion of the material rocked the city and Baghdad residents mistook it for an Iranian missile attack on the Iraqi capital. The

Iraqi regime in a bid to cover up the incident, in a TV broadcast said that it was caused by Iraqi planes breaking the city's sound barrier. A large number of Iraqi military personnel were killed in the explosion.

On Jan 10, TANJUG, the Yugoslav news agency reported a series of explosions in Baghdad, but did not give any reason for them. Other foreign news agencies in Baghdad did not report the incident.

IRNA Speculates on Iraqi Envoy to UK's Summons

LD041608 Tehran IRNA in English 1532 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] London, Feb. 4, IRNA — The British Foreign Office has held talks with the Iraqi ambassador to London, Abd al-Amir al-Anbari on the latest developments in [the] Iraq-Iran war. According to the Foreign Ministry, Al-Anbari was summoned to see Undersecretary of State Timothy Eggar, as Minister Timothy Renton was out of the country.

The Foreign Office confirmed that discussions took place on the Iraqi-imposed war, but was unable to say in what form. A spokesman maintained that the talks were mainly to deal with consular cases of 3 Britons imprisoned in Iraq. "Britain is concerned about the war and Mr Eggar took the opportunity to mention it," the spokesman said. "There was nothing new and it was not the main purpose," he added.

The main focus of discussion between Eggar and Al-Anbari had been on concern over the conditions on 3 Britons held in Iraq. John Smith was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment in Iraq for bribery in 1979, Donald Hagger received a jail sentence a year later, and Ian Richter is awaiting trial on charges of corruption.

The Foreign Ministry could not specify if there had been any protest regarding the increasing Iraqi attacks on Iranian civilian targets, although the spokesman said Britain was "well aware" that attacks on civilian targets had intensified recently. "Britain is particularly concerned about the attacks on civilian targets," he added.

Over 2,000 Iranian residents have been killed and over 6,000 wounded in bombing raids carried out by Iraqi warplanes on Iran's cities in the past few weeks. More recently 400 civilians were killed and over 1,000 injured in an attack on the northwestern Iranian city of Orumiyeh on Saturday, while 68 school girls were killed and another 150 wounded, when a school was bombed in Mianeh, also in northwest Iran Sunday.

In a letter to the general secretary of the United Nations (UN), the Iranian envoy Rajai'e-Khorassani last month renewed warnings of large scale retaliation with no response by the UN.

Iraq's persistent use of chemical weapons was not raised at the talks with Baghdad's envoy, the British Foreign Office spokesman said.

Naval Commander Describes War Achievements

LD041210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Captain Malekzadegan, Naval commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a radio, television, and press interview on the occasion of the 10 Days of Dawn, has described the Islamic Revolution's achievements in the Navy.

With regard to the Navy's capability and command, he said: Bearing in mind the importance of the Persian Gulf region to the Islamic homeland, the Navy is fully prepared to protect the Persian Gulf states against any aggression in this important region.

He went on: After 7 years of the imposed war, our mighty presence as the sole naval power proves the great achievements of this force, because from the viewpoint of training and technology, this force was severely dependent on the West. However, thanks to these achievements, we have been able to maintain our combat readiness, and to even enhance it. We do not need anything from abroad. Trained individuals are now serving within the force. We have made a great deal of progress with regard to the manufacture of spare parts.

He referred to the Navy's complete readiness to discharge any mission assigned to it and said: The task of keeping open the communication lines along the 3,000-km water frontier of our Islamic homeland, of controlling the traffic, protecting and escorting ships, and inspecting ships to ascertain the combat capability of the Zionist enemy [as heard] continue.

With regard to the Iraqi regime's purchase of gunboats from Italy, he said: We shall not allow these units to enhance the combat capability of the Zionist enemy. We are ready to engage them in battle and to destroy them. The Naval commander said a small gunboat suspected of spying was seized today. It was escorted to one of our ports. After a full investigation, its identity and the kind of illegal activity it was engaged in will be made available to the martyr-nurturing nation.

In conclusion, he said that from 21 March 1986 some 1,200 ships have been inspected. Some 42 of them were seized. Those which did not belong to the Iraqi regime were released after inspection and after unloading the military hardware they were carrying for Iraq.

Further on Karbala' 5, 6 Combat Operations

Iraqis Bomb Tabriz, Esfahan, Qom

LD050545 Tehran IRNA in English 0540 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, Feb 5, IRNA — Residential areas in Tabriz and Esfahan, western and central Iran, were bombed by Iraqi war planes late Wednesday night, martyring and injuring a number of civilians.

Several homes were destroyed or damaged in these air raids. In Esfahan, a historical mosque was severely damaged.

Iraqi planes also bombed suburbs of the holy city of Qom Wednesday night. No casualties or damage were reported.

Baghdad Residents Warned To Evacuate

LD050917 Tehran IRNA in English 0914 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, Feb 5, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters (WIH) called on Baghdad residents to immediately evacuate the city. The statement issued here Thursday morning said that residents of the Iraqi capital in order to remain safe from Iranian retaliatory attacks should evacuate the city.

In reprisal for continuous Iraqi attacks on Iranian residential areas, it added, the Muslim forces of Iran will start heavy attacks on Baghdad in future hours. Therefore, it stressed, the Baghdad residents should immediately evacuate the city.

The statement concluded that the Iraqi regime will be held responsible for the consequences of the retaliatory measures of the Muslim combatants of Iran.

IRGC Shells Iraq's Umm Qasr Port

LD050953 Tehran IRNA in English 0928 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, Feb 5, IRNA — Industrial and economic targets in the strategic Iraqi port of Umm Qasr came under heavy artillery fire of the Naval units of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) over the past 24 hours, said a statement issued by the Central Headquarters of the IRGC Thursday.

According to the statement the shelling caused heavy damage especially to the jetty of the port. The shelling was in retaliation for the brutal Iraqi attacks on Iranian residential areas. Several vessels, said the statement, were also destroyed and sunk.

Iraqi Planes Bomb Shushtar Areas

LD051059 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Feb 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Iraqi Zionist regime is continuing its criminal attacks on our country's residential areas. At 1055 today, Iraqi planes bombed several residential areas of Shushtar. Several of our compatriots were maimed or wounded, and a number of residential and commercial units were damaged.

Communique No 2,737

LD041627 Tehran IRNA in English 1609 GMT 4 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, Feb 4, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters pounded Iraqi positions and troop concentration sites in Karbala'-5 operational region at 6:10 and 6:12 hours GMT Wednesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy. All planes returned safely to bases, said a military communique here. Joint Staff Communique No 2,737 said that Iraq's Al-Bakr platform sustained damage when it came under artillery fire of the Iranian Muslim combatants Tuesday and Wednesday.

A foreign cargo ship was intercepted by the Iranian Navy in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but was allowed to continue voyage since no Iraqi-bound cargo was found on board, said the communique.

Long-range artillery fire of the Iranian forces rained on Iraqi military-economic centers and on their strongholds along the border line Tuesday and Wednesday inflicting considerable losses on the Ba'thist enemy, the communique said.

According to the communique, Iranian forces consolidated their positions in the liberated areas in Sumar operational region subjecting Iraqi defence lines and depots to their tank and artillery fire. Iraqi troops were disarrayed in this region and sustained substantial casualties.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in northwestern and southern fronts Tuesday and Wednesday being more intense in Zeydi and Shalamcheh region, said the communique. Iraqi artillery fire was also silenced by Iranian heavy fire in Hajj 'Umran region, it added.

Several Iraqi tanks were destroyed as enemy positions in Kushk and Shahani came under heavy Iranian artillery fire, the communique said.

In the meantime, Iraqi positions and their supply routes and strongholds were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces sustaining damage and casualties, the communique concluded.